



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (12-0754)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: Chairperson Montaña, Vice Chairperson Bacio, Commissioner Bigby, Commissioner Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Hall and Commissioner Hill

Called to Order. (12-0523)

**Chairperson Montaña called the meeting to order at 9:58 a.m.
Commissioners Grills and Hall joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m., and 10:16 a.m. respectively.**

Chairperson Montaña led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the February 8, 2012 Minutes. (12-0524)

On motion of Commissioner Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Grills, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Department of Auditor-Controller
Department of Children and Family Services
Internal Services Department
Department of Mental Health
Probation Department
Sheriff's Department (12-0526)

The Department of Auditor-Controller and Department of Mental Health had no one present to speak before the Commission.

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Ms. Patricia Balonos-Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator, Out of Home Care Management Division, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), reported that DCFS' hotline received 37 child abuse allegations in the following categories: There were 13 allegations of Physical Abuse of which three investigations are in progress, four were evaluated out, four were unfounded and two were determined to be inconclusive; five sexual abuse allegation, three unfounded and two evaluated out; 15 referrals for General Neglect, seven unfounded, one investigation in progress, three evaluated out, three inconclusive and one was substantiated; one unfounded for Emotional Abuse; and three for unspecified abuse, one was unfounded and two were evaluated out.

Elizabeth Howard, CSA III, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), reported that during the period from November 15, 2011 to February 13, 2012, there were 1,159 incidents of youths going Absent Without Leave (AWOL); she also informed the Commission that Bayfront Group Home was placed on investigative hold pending investigation of an incident of improper restraint of a minor by a Bayfront staff member. Chairperson Montaña commented that this information was not disclosed to her by Bayfront staff during her recent inspection of the facility.

Internal Services Department

Mr. William Kiriya, Manager II, Maintenance Operations Division, Internal Service Department (ISD), distributed a handout detailing the Youth Career Development Program, which was founded in 2000 is offered by ISD and the Department of Children and Family Services. Mr. Kiriya stated that over 100 kids have graduated from the program. Currently, due to budget constraints there are six youth enrolled. Mr. Kiriya will report back to the Commission on the number of spaces budgeted for 2012.

Probation Department

Ms. Pamela Pease, Acting Supervising Deputy Probation Officer of the

Probation Department (PD), reported that currently three Group Homes are on "Investigative Hold"; Phoenix House: was placed on hold due to an AWOL 18 year old youth, and the incident report was inconsistent and lacking detailed information; Trinity Yucaipa was placed on hold when a youth was stabbed and the Group Home was not forthcoming with the details of the incident. The home will remain on hold until a Corrective Action Plan is approved; and Sonya Love Group Home, a staff and a youth were engaged in an alleged physical altercation.

She reported there were a total of 122 incidents of youths being AWOL involving 112 different youths, during January 2012; 63 remain AWOL; six went to camp; 16 returned to Group Homes; 15 were temporarily placed in juvenile hall; one was placed on home probation; 11 were placed in Status Offender Detention Alternative/Placement Alternative Detention (Soda/Pad) housing.

Sheriff's Department

Commander Cooper, Sheriff's Department, reported that the implementation of AB 109 which realigned and re-classified State prisoners as County inmates; currently there are 2,975 such inmates in the County jail system, who are presently serving 100 percent of their statutory time. Currently 1,200 of those inmates are participating in specialized and transformative rehabilitation, entitled the Merit Program. Commander Cooper invited the Commission to a Merit Program graduation scheduled for February 23, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in Men's Central Jail. Following the graduation, released inmates are introduced to similar programs in their Community, and are encouraged to participate. Commander Cooper also distributed the Inmate Assault on Staff, Inmate Assault on Inmates and Staff Use of Force for January 2012. He also offered to escort Commissioners during the Pitchess Detention Center - South Facility inspection at a date to be determined.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT-ISD](#)
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT-SHERIFF](#)

3. Chairperson's Report on Various Items for February 15, 2012. (12-0527)
Chairperson Montañó shared the following Newspaper Articles with the Commission:

Los Angeles Times:

- Jailer is Arrested on Drug Charges (February 15, 2012)
- Plan to Boost Appeal of Jail Work (February 15, 2012)

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- **Plan to Boost Appeal of Jail Work (February 15, 2012)**

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Treasurer's Report for February 15, 2012. (12-0529)

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$417.46.

5. Staff Report on Correspondence Received, and Department Representative Reports for February 15, 2012. (12-0530)

There was no report given.

6. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports for February 15, 2012. (12-0531)

There was no report given.

7. Commissioners' Reports on Group Homes and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from February 2, 2012 to February 7, 2012. (12-0532)

During the reporting period the following Group Homes were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

- **Chairperson Montaño visited Bayfront Youth and Family Services (Formerly HV) - 2 #3, on February 14, 2012.**
- **Vice Chairperson Bacio visited San Gabriel Children's Center "RTI/Transitional Living 2" - 38 #1, on February 9, 2012.**
- **Vice Chairperson Bacio and Commissioners Bigby, Grills and Hall visited Century Regional Detention Facility on February 14, 2012.**
- **Commissioner Bigby visited Optimist Boys Home "Eagle Rock Group Home" - 30 #4, on February 9, 2012. Commissioners Bigby noted that this is an all-girls facility and does not house boys as indicated in the Group Home Inspection Roster notebook binder.**

During the reporting period the following Group Home was visited but not inspected:

- **Chairperson Montaño visited Children Are Our Future "Kezios" - 6 #4, on February 13, 2012, however, no one was home.**

- **Vice Chairperson Bacio visited San Gabriel Children's Center "RTI/Transitional Living 2" - 38 #1, on February 7, 2012, however, no one was home.**

III. DISCUSSIONS

8. Discussion and Consideration of the Sybil Brand Commission 2012 Scholarship Application and Timeline. (12-0683)

Nyla Jefferson, Commissions Services Staff, distributed the Sybil Brand Commission's 2012 Scholarship applications and a timeline schedule to the Commissioners. The application is being prepared for dissemination by LaSonya Gibbs, DCFS, and Michael Varela, PD, to distribute to Foster Care and Probation Camp youths. Following discussion, the Commission agreed to May 1, 2012 as the deadline for the submittal of all scholarship applications, and is considering having the awards luncheon in either June or July 2012.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

9. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (12-0533)

Following discussion, Commissioner Hill announced that Commissioner Bigby is being honored by Assemblyman Anthony Portantino at the March 26, 2012 "Women of the Year" awards. Commissioner Bigby will receive the "44th Assembly District Women of the Year Award" that will be presented on the floor of the State Assembly in Sacramento.

Public Comment

10. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (12-0534)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

11. Adjournment for the meeting of February 15, 2012. (12-0535)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.